

REMARKS

Claims 53-60 and 63 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 62 is canceled and claims 53-56, 58 and 59 are amended. Support for the amendments to claims 53-56, 58 and 59 can be found, for example, in original claims 53-56, 58 and 59. No new matter is added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 53-60, 62 and 63 as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. By this Amendment, claim 62 is cancelled, rendering the rejection moot as to that claim. As to the remaining claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Office Action asserts that it is unclear in claim 53 as to whether the recited pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole derivative is a compound of formula (V) or formula (VIII). Applicants submit that the relationship between the pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole derivative of claim 53 and the structures of formula (V) or formula (VIII) are very clear:

(a) the pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole derivative is a compound according to formula (I) in which at least one ketopyrrole group has been converted;

(b) formula (V) defines structures to which the at least one ketopyrrole group in the compound according to formula (I) may be converted; and

(c) formula (VIII) has been deleted from the claims.

The Office Action asserts that claim 53 is unclear in that the substituent "D" is defined in two separate clauses of the claim. By this Amendment, claim 53 is amended to provide, in a single clause, that "D" may be hydrogen, a group of formula (II), a group of formula (III), or a group of formula (IV).

The Office Action asserts that it is unclear in claim 62 as to whether formula (VIII) constitutes a further component of the recited color filter. As indicated above, claim 62 is canceled, rendering the rejection moot.

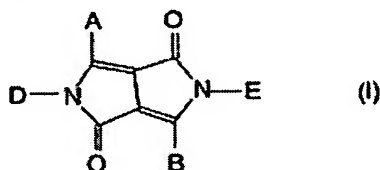
For the foregoing reasons, claims 53-60 and 63 are definite. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102 and/or §103

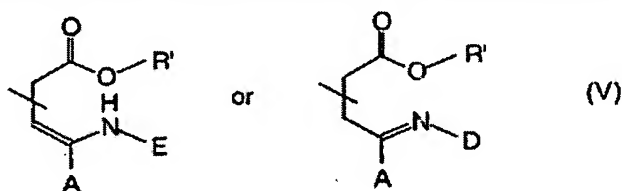
The Office Action rejects claims 53-60, 62 and 63 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), over U.S. Patent No. 5,840,449 to Zambounis et al. ("Zambounis"). By this Amendment, claim 62 is cancelled, rendering the rejection moot as to that claim. As to the remaining claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 53 recites, in part:

[a] color filter comprising a colored layer as colored pixels provided on a transparent substrate, said colored layer containing a pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole derivative produced by converting at least one ketopyrrole group in a pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole of formula



... said at least one ketopyrrole group being converted to



Zambounis does not teach or suggest such a color filter.

The Office Action asserts that Zambounis discloses a pigment coating, useful as a color filter, comprising a pigment formed from a latent pigment. The Office Action further asserts that the latent pigment may comprise a diketopyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole such as recited in

claim 53. Notwithstanding these assertions, Zambounis does not anticipate and would not have rendered obvious claim 53.

As is evident from the formulae set forth above, claim 53 requires a colored layer containing a pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole derivative obtained by converting at least one ketopyrrole group in a pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole. As shown in formula (V) the conversion is completed by cleaving, or opening the ring of, at least one of the ketopyrrole groups between the N and C=O components thereof. The result is a compound having a structure such as, for example, the compound shown at page 40 of the instant specification. There are no such compounds disclosed in Zambounis. The compound cited in the Office Action (compound (XIVb) at column 21) includes an intact pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole. That is, Zambounis does not show a compound that has been subject to conversion to cleave at least one of the ketopyrrole groups between the N and C=O components thereof, as recited in claim 53.

The color filter of claim 53 including the above-described color layer provides unexpected, superior benefits relative to known colored filters. In particular, by chemically cleaving at least one of the ketopyrrole groups of a pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole compound between the N and C=O components thereof, the affinity of the pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole derivative for various solvents is improved, and thus a pigment-dispersed polymer color layer having a high pigment content and excellent coating smoothness can be formed. *See, e.g.*, instant specification, page 7, line 32 to page 8, line 1. As a result, a color filter having significantly improved spectral characteristics (higher color purity, higher transmittance, and higher contrast) over conventional color filters can be achieved. *See, e.g.*, instant specification, page 8, lines 1 to 4.

As Zambounis does not teach or suggest a color layer including a pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole compound that has been subject to conversion to cleave at least one of the

ketopyrrole groups between the N and C=O components thereof, Zambounis does not teach or suggest each and every element of claim 53.


Claim 53 is not anticipated by and would not have been rendered obvious by Zambounis. Claims 54-60 and 63 depend from claim 53 and, thus, also are not anticipated by and would not have been rendered obvious by Zambounis. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 53-60 and 63 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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